CMSC389E:

Digital Logic Design Through Minecraft



Introduction



Fall 2020 Akilesh Praveen & Ashwath Krishnan

Announcements

- Buy Minecraft!
- Course website (http://www.cs.umd.edu/class/fall2020/cmsc389E/)
- Project 0

So What is This Class?

Who is CMSC389E?



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What is CMSC389E?

 The most ambitious ploy to allow the CS department at a world class university to allow us to accumulate credits towards graduation while playing a computer game

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What is CMSC389E?

- A class about digital logic design
- A class about building fundamental computing circuits leveraging redstone in Minecraft
- A way to get hands-on experience building and modifying fundamental, essential computing circuits
- We will adhere to the Von Neumann Computing Model

What to Expect in CMSC389E?

- A continuation of logic gates from CMSC250
- A few more advanced circuits and logic structures (Think ENEE244)
- Logic structures that are the foundations of computer hardware
- Logic gates -> Adders etc. -> Further advanced circuits
- (All in Minecraft!)

- All projects (save for the first few) will be submitted via the CS submit server (submit.cs.umd.edu)
- One project per week
 - Assigned Friday, due the next Monday
 - A little over a week per project
- 13 total lectures
- 1 midterm exam (on-paper or via ELMS, tbd)
- Cumulative, impressive final project

- Important: Ensure that you have submitted a working version of each project by the final deadline at the end of the semester.
- This is considered your 'Good Faith Attempt'. Failure to submit this will result in failing the class. (It's true)

- Theory + Project 'Big Picture' Overview taught in class, with extra reading and video resources delivered via the course website and online textbook
- Practice handed in as projects and graded
- Absolutely wicked final project is a cumulative result of your efforts over the semester

- Sufficient theoretical background + general idea of the project's purpose provided during lecture
- Detailed project description will get you the rest of the way there when you actually sit down to build the project in Minecraft

See syllabus for details (course website)

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- Practice handed in as projects and graded
- Extra credit! (Still working this one out)

Logistics

Buy Minecraft!

- It is essential to this course that you buy the **Java** edition of Minecraft from Mojang's official website, at the following link:
 - https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/store/minecraft-java-edition
- We cannot facilitate use of the Pocket Edition, Bedrock (Including the 'Windows 10' version) Edition, and Console versions of Minecraft.

Course Website

- Our course website will have a quick summary of **all** that you need to accomplish each week. Please use it, especially until our ELMS page is published by the powers that be. http://www.cs.umd.edu/class/fall2020/cmsc389E/
- Once ELMS is up, the **same** information will be available on the course website and ELMS (you may check either).

Course Website

 Ashwath also has some excellent video resources that we will be linking during the semester, those will also be found on the course website (and ELMS)

Online Textbook

- A free online textbook with built-in web based Minecraft schematics is available here: https:/cmsc-389e.github.io/digital-logic-computer-architecture-minecraft
- The recommended readings from this book that you'll find linked on the course website for each week are designed to cover **only** what you need to know for the course and exam. (Other online resources have a lot of info!!)

Remarks

Online Resources

- Use the online textbook (link on course website as well) for some more theoretical background of the material.
- The recommended readings from this book that you'll find linked on the course website for each week are designed to cover only what you need to know for the course and exam. (Other online resources have a lot of info!!)

Deliverables

- Project 0 (wait on turning this one in, until we figure out ELMS)
- Buy Minecraft
- Set aside your username so we can whitelist it later.